CLAIMS:

1. A remote intelligent communication device comprising:

a card-thin housing including:

an upper surface;

a lower surface; and

at least one side extending between the upper surface and the lower surface forming the card-thin housing, the side having visibly perceptible information thereon; and

communication circuitry within the housing configured to at least one of communicate and receive electronic signals.

2. The remote intelligent communication device according to claim 1 wherein the housing comprises a substrate and an encapsulant.

3. The remote intelligent communication device according to claim 2 wherein the substrate comprises the upper surface and the encapsulant comprises the lower surface.

4. The remote intelligent communication device according to claim 1 wherein the card-thin housing has a thickness less than about 100 mils.

5. The remote intelligent communication device according to claim 1 further comprising a processor within the card-thin housing and coupled with the communication circuitry.

6. A radio frequency identification device comprising:

a housing including:

an upper surface;

a lower surface; and

at least one side intermediate the upper surface and the lower surface, the side having visibly perceptible information thereon; and

communication circuitry within the housing and the communication circuitry being configured to at least one of communicate and receive electronic signals.

7. The radio frequency identification device according to claim 6 wherein the visibly perceptible information comprises identification indicia of the radio frequency identification device.

8. The radio frequency identification device according to claim 6 wherein the visibly perceptible information is less than about 50 mils in height.

9. The radio frequency identification device according to claim 6 wherein the communication circuitry comprises transponder circuitry.

10. The radio frequency identification device according to claim 6 wherein the housing comprises a substrate and an encapsulant.

11. The radio frequency identification device according to claim 10 wherein the visibly perceptible information is provided on the encapsulant.

12. The radio frequency identification device according to claim 6 further comprising a power source within the housing and coupled with the communication circuitry.

13. A card comprising:

an upper surface;

a lower surface;

at least one side intermediate the upper and lower surfaces and having a thickness less than about 100 mils; and

identification indicia on the side.

14. The card according to claim 13 wherein the identification indicia is less than about 50 mils in height.

15. The card according to claim 13 wherein the identification indicia identifies the card.

16. The card according to claim 13 wherein the identification indicia comprises at least one of a manufacturing date of the card and a lot number.

17. The card according to claim 13 wherein the card has a thickness less than about 100 mils.

18. The card according to claim 13 further comprising:

transponder circuitry intermediate the upper and lower surfaces; and

a processor intermediate the upper and lower surfaces and coupled with the transponder circuitry.

19. A communication device comprising:

a substrate having a support surface;

an antenna on the support surface;

transponder circuitry coupled with the antenna;

a battery in electrical connection with the transponder circuitry;

a cured resin upon the support surface, the antenna, the transponder circuitry and the battery, the cured resin and substrate forming a housing having an upper surface and a lower surface interconnected by side surfaces; and

identification indica on at least one of the side surfaces of the housing.

20. The communication device according to claim 19 wherein the housing has a thickness less than about 100 mils.

21. The communication device according to claim 19 wherein the identification indicia is provided on the resin.

22. The communication device according to claim 19 further comprising a processor within the housing and coupled with the transponder circuitry.

23. A method of forming a card comprising:

providing a substrate having:

an upper surface;

a lower surface, and the upper and lower surfaces individually having a length and a width; and

a plurality of sides individually having a thickness less than the lengths and the widths of the surfaces; and

encoding visibly perceptible information on at least one of the sides.

24. The method of forming a card according to claim 23 wherein the thickness of the card is less than about 100 mils.

25. The method of forming a card according to claim 23 wherein the visibly perceptible information comprises identification indicia.

26. The method of forming a card according to claim 23 further comprising incorporating transponder circuitry with the substrate.

27. A method of forming a card comprising:

providing a card including an upper surface, a lower surface and a plurality of sides;

providing a print head;

moving at least one of the card and the print head relative to the other of the card and print head; and

using the print head, encoding visibly perceptible information on at least one side of the card.

28. The method of forming a card according to claim 27 wherein the encoding is provided during the moving.

29. The method of forming a card according to claim 27 wherein the visibly perceptible information comprises identification indicia.

30. The method of forming a card according to claim 27 further comprising forming transponder circuitry within the card prior to the encoding.

31. A method of forming a communication device comprising:

providing a first substrate;

providing an antenna supported by the first substrate;

coupling communication circuitry with the antenna on the first substrate;

applying and curing an encapsulant over the first substrate to form a composite substrate including the first substrate and the encapsulant, the composite substrate having upper and lower surfaces and at least one side surface extending therebetween; and

encoding visibly perceptible information on the side surface.

32. The method of forming a communication device according to claim 31 wherein the encoding comprises encoding the visibly perceptible information on the encapsulant.

33. The method of forming a communication device according to claim 31 wherein the visibly perceptible information comprises identification indicia.

34. A method of forming a remote intelligent communication device comprising:

providing a substrate;

forming communication circuitry upon the substrate and configured to at least one of communicate and receive electronic signals;

encapsulating the communication circuitry thereby forming a card-thin housing with the substrate, the housing including an upper surface, a lower surface, and at least one side extending between the upper and lower surfaces; and

encoding visibly perceptible information on the side of the card-thin housing.

35. The method of forming a remote intelligent communication device according to claim 34 wherein the communication circuitry comprises a power source.

36. The method of forming a remote intelligent communication device according to claim 34 wherein the card-thin housing has a thickness less than 100 mils.

37. The method of forming a remote intelligent communication device according to claim 34 wherein the visibly perceptible information comprises identification indicia.

38. The method of forming a remote intelligent communication device according to claim 37 wherein the communication circuitry comprises transponder circuitry configured to generate an identification signal corresponding to the identification indicia.

39. A method of forming a communication device comprising:

providing a substrate;

supporting an antenna on the substrate;

coupling transponder circuitry with the antenna;

mounting a battery to the substrate in electrical connection with the transponder circuitry;

encapsulating the antenna, the transponder circuitry, the battery and at least a portion of the substrate with a flowable encapsulant;

curing the flowable encapsulant on the substrate into a solid housing having an upper surface and lower surface interconnected by side surfaces defining a housing thickness; and

encoding identification indicia on at least one of the side surfaces of the housing.

40. The method of forming a communication device according to claim 39 wherein the encoding comprises encoding the identification indicia on the encapsulant.

41. The method of forming a communication device according to claim 39 wherein the identification indicia identifies the communication device.

42. A method of encoding visibly perceptible information on a communication device comprising:

providing a card housing communication circuitry therein, the card having upper and lower surfaces interconnected by side surfaces;

providing a print head;

supporting the card on one of the side surfaces;

moving the print head adjacent another side surface of the card; and

encoding identification indicia on the another side surface of the card with the moving print head.

43. The method of encoding visibly perceptible information on a communication device according to claim 42 further comprising:

providing a plurality of said cards in a stack; and

printing on the card sides while the plurality of cards is in the stack.

44. The method of encoding visibly perceptible information on a communication device according to claim 42 further comprising:

providing a plurality of said cards in a pre-arranged orientation; and

selecting one of the cards prior to the supporting.

45. The method of encoding visibly perceptible information on a communication device according to claim 42 wherein the card has a thickness less than about 100 mils.

46. A method of encoding visibly perceptible information on a communication device comprising:

providing a card housing communication circuitry therein, the card having upper and lower surfaces interconnected by side surfaces;

providing a print head;

moving the card relative to the print head; and

encoding identification indicia on at least one of the side surfaces with the print head while moving the card relative to the print head.

47. The method of encoding visibly perceptible information on a communication device according to claim 46 wherein the moving comprises passing the card by the print head intermediate a pair of driving processing rollers.

48. The method of encoding visibly perceptible information on a communication device according to claim 46 wherein the card has a thickness less than about 100 mils.

49. The method of encoding visibly perceptible information on a communication device according to claim 46 wherein the print head remains stationary relative to the moving card during printing.

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